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Merchant & Gould

An Intellectual Property Law Firm

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A Professional Corporation

Fax Transmission

February 14, 2003

TO:

FEB-14-03

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Examiner Bennett M. Celsa

Patent Examining Corps

Facsimile Center

Washington, D.C. 20231

Mark T. Skoog FROM:

OFFICIAL

OUR REF:

13288.6USI2

TELEPHONE:

612.371.5240

Total pages, including cover letter: 27

PTO FAX NUMBER 1-703.308.2742

If you do NOT receive all of the pages, please telephone us at 612.371.5204, or fax us at 612, 332, 9081.

Title of Document Transmitted:

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 AND AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE INCLUDING VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Applicant: Serial No.:

Filed:

MARCH 9. 2000

Group Art Unit: 1639

Our Ref. No.:

13288.6USI2

Please charge Deposit Account No. 13-2725 in the amount of \$750.00 for Request for Continued Examination Fee and \$1,098.00 for excess claims. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

Name: Mark T. Skoog

Reg. No.: 40,178

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

February 14, 2003

February 14, 2003

S/N 09/521,545

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

SWAN ET AL.

Examiner:

B. CELSA

Serial No.:

09/521,545

Group Art Unit:

1639

Filed:

MARCH 9, 2000

Docket No.:

13283.6USI2

Title:

EPOXIDE POLYMER SURFACES

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):
I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 14,

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

Box RCE

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, it is respectfully requested that this application be accorded the benefits of Continued Examination.

Our check in the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the required fee for a large entity.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

612/332-5300

03/05/2003 TSUGGS 00000001 132725 09521545

FC:1201 FC:1202

Mark T. Skoog Reg. No. 40,178

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

S/N 09/521,545

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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2003.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed on December 17, 2002, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Response for the patent application identified above. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendment and consideration of the remarks below. This Amendment and Response is accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 4 and 30 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1-3, 9 and 29 as follows.

A reagent composition for attaching a target molecule to (Twice Amended) 1. the surface of a substrate, the reagent composition comprising a copolymer having one or more pendant epoxy groups, the copolymer formed by reacting a mixture comprising:

- one or more monomers having pendant epoxy group; and (a)
- one or more diluent monomers or polymers lacking pendant epoxy group, wherein **(b)** the diluent monomers or polymers comprise acrylics, vinyls, nylons, polyurethanes, or polyethers;